

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus comprising:

a music playing data extracting device which extracts a MIDI music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource, which is in a form of recorded representation of music, including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

an encrypting device which encrypts the extracted MIDI music playing data file using an encryption key;

a first storing device which stores the encrypted MIDI music playing data file encrypted by said encrypting device;

a decrypting device which decrypts said encrypted MIDI music playing data file from said first storing device using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key; and

a second storing device which stores the decrypted MIDI music playing data file decrypted by said decrypting device; and

an automatic music playing device which plays music of said given music work resource based on the decrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said second storing device;

~~wherein the music playing data file is MIDI data.~~

2. (*Currently Amended*) A method for ensuring secure use of a music playing data file comprising:

a step of extracting a MIDI music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource, which is in a form of recorded representation of music, including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

a step of encrypting the extracted MIDI music playing data file using an encryption key;

a step of storing in a first storing device said encrypted MIDI music playing data file;

a step of decrypting said encrypted MIDI music playing data file ~~as stored in the~~ said first storing step device using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key; and

a step of storing in a second storing device the decrypted MIDI music playing data file decrypted in the decrypting step; and

a step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource based on the decrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said second storing device;

—wherein the music playing data file is MIDI data.

3. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said automatic music playing device renders said decrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said second storing device is deleted-unutilizable~~ after said music playing device has played music of said given music work resource based on said decrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said second storing device.

4. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said given music work resource is ~~in an encrypted condition~~, and said music playing data extracting device decrypts ~~said the encrypted given music work resource in the encrypted condition~~ before extracting said MIDI music playing data file.

5. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said given music work resource is ~~in an encrypted condition~~, and said music playing data extracting device decrypts ~~said the encrypted given music work resource in the encrypted condition~~ before extracting said MIDI music playing data file.

6. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said music playing data extracting device renders said decrypted given music work resource unutilizable after said music playing data extracting device has extracted said MIDI music playing data file from said encrypted given music work resource.

7. (*Currently Amended*) A ~~storage device~~ computer-readable medium storing a computer program for ensuring secure use of a music playing data file, said program comprising ~~program instructions for a computer to execute:~~

a ~~step of~~ extracting a MIDI music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource, which is in a form of recorded representation of music, including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

a ~~step of~~ encrypting the extracted MIDI music playing data file using an encryption key;-
and

a ~~step of~~ storing the encrypted MIDI music playing data file in a first storing device;[[.]]

decrypting said encrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said first storing device using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key;

storing the decrypted MIDI music playing data file in a second storing device; and
automatically playing music of said given music work resource based on the decrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said second storing device
 ——— ~~wherein the music playing data file is MIDI data.~~

8. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatic music playing device includes the tone generator that generates musical tone signals based on the decrypted MIDI data file ~~that is decrypted~~ stored in said second storing device.

9. (*Currently Amended*) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource includes generating musical tone signals based on the decrypted MIDI data file ~~that is decrypted~~ stored in said second storing device.

10. (*Canceled*)

11. (*Currently Amended*) ~~A storage device~~ computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~[[10]]~~ 7, wherein the ~~step of~~ instruction for automatically playing music of said given music work resource includes generating musical tone signals based on the encrypted MIDI data file ~~that is decrypted~~ stored in said second storing device.

12. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first storing device is a memory card for storing said encrypted MIDI music playing data file, and wherein the electronic musical apparatus further includes a further encrypting device that again encrypts ~~wherein said decrypted~~ MIDI music playing data file ~~is further encrypted by a further-encrypting device and a third storing device that stores the again encrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in a further storing device, and~~ wherein said encrypted music playing data file stored in said memory card is deleted as said ~~further~~ again encrypted music playing data file is stored in said ~~further~~ third storing device.

13. (*Currently Amended*) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~said step of~~ said first storing stores ~~said encrypted music playing data file in~~ device is a memory card, the method further comprising:

a step of ~~further~~ again encrypting said decrypted MIDI music playing data file;

a step of ~~further~~ storing ~~said further~~ the again encrypted MIDI music playing data file in a third storing device; and

a step of deleting said encrypted MIDI music playing data file stored in said memory card as ~~said further~~ again encrypted music playing data file is stored in said third storing device.

14. (*Currently Amended*) ~~A storage device~~ computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 7, wherein ~~the~~ said first storing step stores ~~said encrypted music playing data file in~~ device is a memory card, wherein said program further includes ~~program instructions to execute for~~:

~~a step of decrypting said encrypted music playing data file as stored in said storing step using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key;~~

a step of ~~further~~ again encrypting said decrypted MIDI music playing data file;

~~a step of further~~ storing ~~said further~~ the again encrypted MIDI music playing data file in a third storing device; and

~~a step of deleting said encrypted~~ MIDI music playing data file stored in said memory card as ~~said further~~ again encrypted MIDI music playing data file is stored in said third storing device.

15. (*New*) An electronic musical apparatus comprising:

a music playing data providing apparatus for providing a music playing data file; and

an automatic music playing apparatus for playing music by controlling a tone generator to produce musical tone signals based on the music playing data file,

wherein the music playing data providing apparatus comprises:

a music playing data extracting device which receives, from an external musical work resource server, a musical work data file in a data format different from the data format of the music playing data file, and extracts the music playing data file from the musical work data file received from the external musical work resource server;

a first encrypting device which encrypts the extracted music playing data file extracted by said music playing data extracting device using a first encryption key; and

a first storage medium which stores the encrypted music playing data file encrypted by said first encrypting device, and

wherein said automatic music playing apparatus comprises:

a first decrypting device which receives and decrypts the encrypted music playing data file stored in said first storage medium using a first decryption key which corresponds to said first encryption key;

a second encrypting device which again encrypts the decrypted music playing data file decrypted by said first decrypting device using a second encryption key;

a second storage medium which stores the again encrypted music playing data file encrypted by said second encrypting device;

a first deleting device which deletes the encrypted music playing data file stored in said first storage medium in response to said again encrypted music playing data file being stored in said second storage medium;

a second decrypting device which again decrypts said again encrypted music playing data file stored in said second storage medium using a second decrypting key which corresponds to said second encrypting key;

a third storage medium which stores the again decrypted music playing data file decrypted by said second decrypting device;

an automatic music playing device which plays music by controlling a tone generator which generates musical tones based on said again decrypted music playing data file stored in said third storage medium; and

a second deleting device which deletes the again decrypted music playing data file stored in said third storage medium after playing music of the musical work data file based on said again decrypted music playing data.